

The background of the poster is a textured blue. It features faint, large-scale text that reads "Jazz Marathon" in a serif font. Overlaid on this is a stylized illustration of a jazz musician, possibly a saxophone player, rendered in shades of purple and pink. The musician is shown in profile, facing right, with their head tilted back and mouth open as if playing. The overall aesthetic is modern and artistic.

Jazz Marathon

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL
TERRACE BALLROOM

NOVEMBER 15, 2007



JAZZ Marathon

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL
TERRACE BALLROOM

An All-Star Tribute to
WBGO-FM Jazz Fridays (1986-1991)

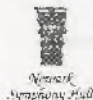
Honoring:
Dorthaan Kirk of WBGO-FM

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 15, 2007
5:00PM-1:00AM

Honorary Chairpersons

Hon. Cory A. Booker • Hon. Mildred C. Crump • Rev. Dr. M. William Howard • Mr. John R. Smith

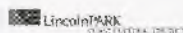
Presented by



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In Collaboration with



The Jazz Marathon is sponsored by PSEG and presented in collaboration with WBGO-FM Jazz 88 and the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District with support from the Montclair Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Parker Music Productions and IATSE Local 21 Stagehands.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL - REVIVAL RENOVATION FUND

MESSAGE FROM

NORMAN SIMPSON

Interim Chairperson

PHILIP S. THOMAS

Executive Director

Thank you, for joining us this evening. Your presence at the Jazz Marathon is a significant vote of confidence for our efforts to redefine Newark Symphony Hall's public image and future.

There are a host of friends here supporting us this evening and we express our appreciation to each of you.

Yvette Glover originated the idea for this event. She suggested that we contact some of the area jazz musicians, singers, and rap dancers who care passionately about Newark Symphony Hall and its future. I am grateful to all the performers and the hosts who are participating gratis this evening. Without your generous contribution, the Jazz Marathon would not be possible.

This event is being presented in cooperation with the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District and WBGO-FM Jazz 88. Dorthaan Kirk is our very special honoree for the evening and her programming suggestions coupled with the promotional resources of WBGO-FM Jazz 88 have assisted us immensely.

PSE&G is our lead sponsor for the Jazz Marathon. In addition to their sponsorship, we are grateful for the invaluable guidance they have provided to Newark Symphony Hall during the past five months. A special group of corporations, sponsoring organizations, and individuals have contributed generously to underwrite the expenses for this evening and we thank you.

The City Administration and the members of the Municipal Council are staunch advocates for Newark Symphony Hall and are enthusiastic about the future possibilities it represents for our residents.

The Volunteer Committee, Parker Music Productions, IATSE Local 21 stage hands, the Newark Police Department, and Newark Symphony Hall staff members are all donating their services for the Jazz Marathon. Their unselfish generosity is greatly appreciated.

The Revival Renovation Fund will help Newark Symphony Hall undertake some urgent renovation projects. Upgrading the Newark Symphony Hall facilities will assist in increasing its tenant occupancy base, expanding its programming, and stabilizing its earned income stream from rental, tickets sales and concession activities.

There are many others who came onboard to assist us following the printing of the Program Journal whose names are not listed. The Board of Directors and Staff extends a very special thanks to you as well.

Please enjoy the evening.

Norman Simpson*Interim Chairperson***Philip S. Thomas***Executive Director*

JAZZ
Marathon



CORY A. BOOKER

MAYOR

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

07102

November 15, 2007

Dear Organizers and Attendees of The Jazz Marathon,

Newark Symphony Hall is in the midst of a transformation. Located in the historic center of the Lincoln Park District, Newark Symphony Hall enjoys the support of our local residents who have fond memories of unforgettable performances and events attended in this historic venue.

The Jazz Marathon is representative of the programming that we want to bring back to the Terrace Ballroom. The legendary performances of Sarah Vaughan, Wayne Shorter, James Moody, Babs Gonzales, Ms. Rhapsody and the many other Newark legends will continue to echo at future jazz performances in the Terrace Ballroom.

As a major commitment to the preservation of this legendary venue, the City Administration and the Municipal Council have included \$1.5M in this year's Capital Budget to make critical upgrades to Newark Symphony Hall such as replacing the roof. Our City is in the midst of a marvelous renaissance. Newark Symphony Hall has a significant role to play as we move our city forward. We intend to make sure that it continues to be a resource for the arts, entertainment and cultural activities for the residents of Newark and the citizens of New Jersey.

I welcome you to Newark. I also encourage you to visit our cultural institutions like the Newark Public Library, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Newark Museum, and the NEW Prudential Center. Cheer on the Newark Bears baseball team as they take the field. Visit our historic churches, shop in our stores, and eat in our restaurants. Enjoy our city's great diversity and hospitality.

Again, welcome to Newark!

Sincerely,

CORY A. BOOKER

Mayor

JAZZ
Marathon

HON. MILDRED C. CRUMP

President - Municipal Council
Newark, New Jersey 07102

November 15, 2007

Philip S. Thomas, Executive Director
Newark Performing Arts Corporation
1030 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102-2410

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I would like to extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Newark Symphony Hall on its presentation of the Newark Symphony Hall Jazz Marathon. What an amazing tribute in a city that has produced jazz greats such as, Sarah Vaughan, Wayne Shorter and James Moody, and I am so pleased that Newark Symphony Hall has undertaken such an endeavor. I am confident that this event, the first of a series, will generate renewed interest in and financial resources for this remarkable institution that has been a cornerstone of arts and culture in the City of Newark.

The Newark Municipal Council is proud to be a part of the renaissance that is currently taking place in this great city. As we work to increase the quality of life for the families in our community, the arts will play a crucial role in accomplishing this task. If we are going to make this city a vibrant and productive community for our citizens; we must preserve and promote its rich cultural history.

I am certain that this event will be a great success and have a positive impact on your efforts to renovate Newark Symphony Hall and would like to extend the Municipal Council's continued support.

Yours truly,

Mildred C. Crump
President
Newark Municipal Council

REV. M. WILLIAM HOWARD

Dear Friends:

It is my great privilege to be associated with this Jazz Marathon and to offer my special congratulations to my beloved sister, Dorthaan Kirk, who is being singled out this evening for her unparalleled devotion to America's Classical Music.

It is my hope, along with others, that this event-with its showcasing of so many outstanding musicians-will prove to be a momentous step in the march of Symphony Hall back to its former glory.

Philip Thomas and his team are to be commended for their vision and their tireless work, and the community of support that we represent must rally behind them to ensure their success.

In solidarity,

Rev. M. William Howard

JOHN R. SMITH

President, PSE&G Foundation

November 15, 2007

Philip S. Thomas
Executive Director
Newark Symphony Hall
1030 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Dear Philip:

It is a pleasure and an honor to participate in the "Newark Symphony Hall REVIVAL: Celebrating the Legacy and the Future" and pay tribute to WBGO-FM while extending a special honor to Dorthaan Kirk at this evening's Jazz Marathon.

The New Jersey Landscape is diverse in numerous aspects from its people to its entertainment venues. Newark Symphony Hall, a historic facility, has endless potential to offer first class entertainment. Central to this effort is an upgrade to the condition of the facilities. Corporate support of an institution such as this speaks to the commitment we have to the community in which we serve.

There is a significant need for Newark Symphony Hall to introduce its own season of year-round programming for children, families and the general public. The production of a Jazz Marathon, bringing home New Jersey's finest talent is a first step in that direction.

I encourage my business colleagues to join me in bringing this beautiful edifice back to greatness. It would prove valuable in returning the City of Newark to its cultural prominence.

Thank you for joining us this evening and enjoying the best of jazz.

John R. Smith

President, PSE&G Foundation

JAZZ
Marathon



THE CHALLENGE

The historic Newark Symphony Hall (NSH), one of New Jersey's most comprehensive and respected centers for promoting community arts, education and entertainment, is making a great impact on enriching the lives of the residents of Newark and the citizens of New Jersey.

It enjoys a long and rich history as one of New Jersey's oldest and largest showcases for performing arts programming. This multi-facility edifice was built by the Shriners, a Masonic order, in 1925 and was alternately known as "Salaam Temple" and "The Mosque". Such historic artists of genius stature such as Arturo Toscanini, Marian Anderson, William Warfield, Lily Pons and George Gershwin performed here. The Boston and Cleveland Symphony Orchestras, the Metropolitan National Opera Company and the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo also graced the stage of this venerable theater. In more recent years, the stage has been home to such artists as the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey State Opera, Theater of Universal Images, Tony Bennett, Count Basie, Nancy Wilson, James Brown, Pat LaBelle, Queen Latifah, The Whispers, and Tyler Perry.

Newark Symphony Hall can be much more than a historically designated concert hall. The challenge is to position Newark Symphony Hall so that it occupies a unique role in the cultural life of the greater Newark area wholly distinguished from NJPAC, the Paper Mill Playhouse, Bergen PAC, SOPAC and other cultural venues in the area. This is essential if Newark Symphony Hall is to realize success in attracting philanthropic dollars, audiences and performing artists to its stages that will be able to fill the 2,800 seats of the Sarah Vaughan Concert Hall, the Terrace Ballroom and its other venues.

Newark is entering a new era with the presence of NJPAC, Bears and Eagles Riverfront Stadium and the Prudential Center. Ten years ago Newark Symphony Hall was the only major entertainment venue on Broad Street. It no longer occupies that position, but, it continues to be the City of Newark's community cultural center. To date, it has not been branded as such. Moving towards the future the programming objective would be to present on the stages of Newark Symphony Hall performances that are of the highest level of quality and that reflect the diversity of New Jersey's population and that appeal to a broad audience.

However, that is not in conflict with making sure that greater Newark's indigenous population receives special consideration in the programming choices and is specifically targeted in the marketing and promotional campaigns initiated by Newark Symphony Hall. This sounds obvious to most, however it will take considerable resources to maximize its full potential and create a niche identity for Newark Symphony Hall. Now is the opportune time to do this.

Our objective is to create an apparatus that allows Newark Symphony Hall to expand linkages with the community-based organizations, government, churches, social organizations, sororities, fraternities, businesses, media (print and electronic), local schools, colleges, arts organizations, individual artists (musicians, dancers, actors, filmmakers, poets, playwrights), local promoters and producers, and the residents of the greater Newark area. We intend to extend an invitation for members of the greater Newark community to play a significant role in the future of Newark Symphony Hall and to take ownership for its success.



MOVING AHEAD

Newark Symphony Hall is among the constellation of Newark organizations providing quality of life experiences for all of its residents through the arts, education and entertainment. According to Linwood Oglesby, Executive Director of the Newark Arts Council, "Newark has an economy that is expanding. People are visiting the city for the arts. We need to continue to invest in our non-profit arts and culture sector which returns big dividends in jobs, tax revenues, and support of local and regional business."

Newark Symphony Hall is the flagship venue in the south Broad Street area approach to Newark similar to Newark Bears and Eagles Stadium on the north Broad Street area approach to the City. It sets the stage for the City as you enter from the Route 21 North - viaduct onto Broad Street and into the downtown area entryway towards the Prudential Center. By example, it can act as a stimulus for encouraging improvements to the private properties, roads, storefronts, Lincoln Park and other elements of south Broad Street.

Newark Symphony Hall enjoys a robust schedule of rental activity in the Sarah Vaughan Concert Hall, the Terrace Ballroom, the Newark Stage and the Dance Studio. These activities include: R&B, gospel, salsa, and jazz concerts; urban stage plays; graduation ceremonies; wedding receptions; dance parties; church services; corporate meetings; film shoots; and other events and performances. However, there is a significant need for Newark Symphony Hall to introduce its own season of year-round programming for children, families and the general public. This is instrumental if Newark Symphony Hall is to fulfill the programming expectations of the greater Newark audience and maximize the full potential of its civic responsibility.

Central to these efforts is an upgrade to the condition of the facilities. Currently, the building needs a roof replacement, repairs to floors, walls and ceilings, rest room improvements, carpet replacement, upgrading of selected fixtures and equipment, and some facade and streetscape improvements. At this time, we are speaking of refurbishing and upgrades to the facilities and not a complete restoration. That is a much larger endeavor that will be launched through a major capital development plan and campaign that is currently in the preparation stages.

The Jazz Marathon is designed to benefit Newark Symphony Hall in the following ways: 1) bring the arts community together with the community at-large to experience and support the rich and diverse offerings that Newark Symphony Hall has for its visitors; 2) foster sustaining partnerships with potential financial donors and friends, and, 3) advance its self-sufficiency. Your partnership with Newark Symphony Hall will continue the great legacy of providing quality community arts, education and entertainment increasing cultural awareness and stimulating one of Newark's most important economic resources, while having a significant impact on advancing the development goals of the City of Newark.



JAZZ MARATHON

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

The Jazz Marathon is being presented in cooperation with WBGO-FM Jazz 88 and the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District. The purpose of this event is to launch the Revival Renovation Fund. The goal is to raise \$10,000 in financial resources for the Newark Symphony Hall renovation plans. The event is also designed to stimulate broad-based awareness, visibility, and support for the long-term renovation plans for Newark Symphony Hall.

The Jazz Marathon includes a mix of musicians, songwriters, dancers and spoken word artists who believe in the importance of artistic expression. We intend for this event to lend significance to Newark Symphony Hall's reputation as a showcase for the wealth of professional musicians that reside in the greater Newark area.

Many of us recall the time when jazz was abundant at Sparky's, the original Key Club, the Cardinal Club, the Playbill and a host of other jazz clubs in Newark. Barbara Nukas book "Swing City" documents an even earlier period in Newark's history when musicians and fans gathered where a dominant part of city life. Amiri Baraka speaks often of the "Coast" in the Lincoln Park district of Newark that at one time was the center of Black entertainment in Newark. Sadly, those eras have passed. Presently though we do have Newark's Priority Club's West Orange campus in Montclair and the Crossroads in Garwood that provide a showcase for jazz in New Jersey.

The Terrace Ballroom of Newark Symphony Hall was the site of WBGO-FM's Jazz Fridays. Jazz Fridays was a pivotal series in the history of jazz music in the City of Newark from 1986-1991. It featured some of the greatest names in jazz. Debraan Kirk played a pivotal role in producing the series and in the acquisition of the musical artists who performed. In recognition Newark Symphony Hall is paying tribute to WBGO-FM Jazz Fridays and is extending a special honor to Debraan Kirk, the station's Special Events and Programs Coordinator.

We would like to return the Terrace Ballroom to its former glory and offer another venue in Newark that showcases the best jazz music. In addition it can serve as an event venue for cabaret, dance parties, wedding receptions, comedy shows, gospel brunch affairs, fashion shows, and social day functions.

This can only be accomplished if the physical condition of the facility can adequately meet the needs of audiences, organizations, promoters and performing artists that we seek to attract to this historic venue.

JAZZ
Marathon

Jazz 88

WBGO
88.3 FM

WBGO - FM JAZZ 88

WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM serves the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area with mainstream jazz, blues, and award-winning news and public affairs programming. Non-commercial WBGO is supported by nearly 15,000 annual members and has over 330,000 weekly broadcast listeners. WBGO also streams its broadcast signal to a nationwide audience at www.wbgo.org. Jazz 88 was named the "Jazz Station of the Year" by the *Garden Report* and is also the recipient of the Blues Foundation's "Keeping the Blues Alive Award" for Achievement in Non-Commercial Radio.

Jazz 88 has used its position at the center of the jazz capital to produce a continuing stream of jazz-related events, many of them historically important to the music. The first Sarah Vaughan Jazz Festival, the series at Lincoln Center that spun off to become Jazz at Lincoln Center, the only free Children's Jazz Series of nine concerts each year, now in its 14th year, and a highly visible series of New York City New Year's Eve Concerts. These concerts have featured performances (sometimes extremely rare) with Winton Marsalis, Nina Simone, Dizzy Gillespie, Stanley Turrentine, Lou Rawls, Savion Glover, Ruth Brown, and Carmen McRae, just to name a few. Today, WBGO produces or is a sponsor for more than 100 concerts a year and does live broadcasts of another 25 concerts.

WBGO is a publicly supported, not-for-profit organization that champions jazz, an American art form, and presents news to a worldwide audience through radio, other technologies and events.

JAZZ
Marathon

LINCOLN PARK COAST CULTURAL DISTRICT

Established in 1999, the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District (LPCCD) was created to transform a community dominated by drugs, crime and Brownfields into a vibrant, fully productive community. It is one of Newark's most dynamic organizations, blending arts, cultural, planning, and programming with community economic development. LPCCD's mission is to plan, design, and build an arts and cultural district in Newark. The redevelopment project includes the building of 300 new "green" units of housing, culminating with the creation of the Museum of African American Music, a Smithsonian Affiliate. The Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District is a New Jersey non-profit 501(c)(3) organization working to create a community that includes art, culture, environmental sustainability, historic preservation, commercial retail, and performance spaces that will once again bring vitality and stability to the area.

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DORTHAAN KIRK

HONOREE

Dorthaan Kirk is in many ways considered the mother of WBCO FM Jazz 88. She had recently lost her husband, jazz great Kahsan Roman Kirk, in 1978 when she got a phone call from station founder Bob Ottentoff. Though she knew nothing about public radio, he wanted her to be the "ambassador" for the new jazz station to the jazz community. Since that time, she has been seminal in so many ways that make jazz 88 the station that it is.

Her husband's record collection was borrowed from opera when the station started out and it had no collection of its own. She organized successive New Year's Eve Benefits for the station at New York hot spots with artists such as Nina Simone, Carmen McRae, Lou Rawls, Marlena Shaw, Wynton Marsalis, Ernie Andrews, Ernestine Anderson, Ruth Brown, Stanley Turrentine, Joe Hampton, and many others. Now Special Events and Programs Coordinator, Kirk has booked and managed the WBCO Free Children's Jazz Concert series for over 14 years, programmed and supervised Jazz Benefits for the station, and curated and managed an art exhibit and receptions for the WBCO Gallery. She facilitates the popular on-air music calendar that lists jazz events all over the metropolitan area on a daily basis, ticket giveaways, PSAs, and interviews with jazz artists by station hosts.

Dorthaan Kirk is a devoted member of Newark's Bethany Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. M. William Howard. At Bethany Baptist she has served as the music director for the Jazz Vespers concert series since 2000 and is a member of the church Lecture Committee.

Dorthaan has been acknowledged for her work both in the jazz community and at WBCO by the City of East Orange in Jazz Journalists, the Newark Museum, and NJPAC for her work with the Wachovia NJPAC Jazz for Teens program. She was written about as a distinguished woman in Barbara Kaka's book *Defying the Odds*.

JAZZ MARATHON P R O G R A M M E

Ron "Slim" Washington	Host
Newark Public Schools - Super Band	William M. May (Music Director) Julia Dowdell & Jan Carden (Vocalists)
Spirit of Life Ensemble	David Davis Williams (Music Director) Cynthia Holiday & Tijuana Donna Combebatch (Vocalists)
Carrie Jackson & The Jazzin' All Star Trio	Featuring Lou Ramone (piano) Savin Fernandez (bass) Gordon Lane (drums)
Jason "Malletman" Taylor & Maurice Chestnut	
Sheila Anderson	Host
Steve & Iqua Colson	Steve Colson (piano) Iqua Colson (vocal) Reggie Nicholson (drums) Andy Moten (bass) TK Blue (sax) Marlene Rice (vocal)
Rufus Reid Quintet	Rufus Reid (bass) Sam Tononka (piano) Tim Horner (drums) Rich Perry (sax) Mike Rodriguez (trumpet)
Roseanna Vitro Quartet	Roseanna Vitro (vocal) Mark Soskin (piano) Dean Johnson (bass) Tim Horner (drums)
Awards Presentation	Dorhaan Kirk WBGO-FM Jazz 88
Jazz Marathon Ensemble (JME)	Sherry Weston (flute) Alfred Parsons (trumpet) Corne McGhee (trumpet) James Gwalt (trumpet) Fred Brown (drums) Don Parson (drums) Cec Brooks (bass) (drums) Mervin Davis (organ)
Deborah Mitchell & Karen Callaway Williams	Nick Denner (piano)
Stan Myers	Host
Savion Glover & Yvette Glover	Wesley Miller (trumpet)
Antoinette Montague & the Bill Easley Quartet	Antoinette Montague (vocal) Bill Easley (alto sax) Vincent Ector (drums) Tommy James (piano)
Don Williams & Lady Cici	
and the Swinging Just Us Band	Lady Cici (vocal) Don Williams (drums) Richie McCrae (organ) Eric Johnson (guitar)

JAZZ MARATHON
H O S T S

SHEILA F. ANDERSON

Sheila is an announcer and host for WBGO 88.3FM, "Late Night Jazz" on Saturday Night 9PM to 1AM. In the world of art, much of the focus is placed upon the artists and rightfully so. However, there are certain individuals behind the scenes who are moving and shaking, feeding and affecting the scene in myriad ways. Sheila Anderson is one of these individuals. She has always taken on the challenges of creating opportunities for herself and developing formats that exist outside of the box. A native of Buffalo, NY, Miss Anderson's unique individual career path began in 1963 at the age of 16 when she was elected New York State Youth President of the NAACP. In 1977 she was elected as a member of the NAACP's National Board of Directors, a position she held until 1981. These second years in her young life set the precedent for the leadership and cultural and artistic awareness that she would later attain in her present career status as a ground breaker in her field.

In 1995 she set her sights on an entirely different career. At that time, she was hired as an on-air host at WBGO where she now hosts Late Night Jazz on Saturday evening. For nine years she hosted Sunday Morning Harmony.

Anderson created The Art of Jazz, a weekly 30-minute TV program for Time Warner Cable in New York City. The show earned her a Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN) Award for Community Media. www.mnn.org. The Art of Jazz which reaches some half million viewers, has featured jazz luminaries Ron Carter, Eric Keane, Russell Malone, Regina Carter, Mark Murphy, Javon Jackson, T.S. Monk, Monty Alexander and Benny Golson and the late Leon Thomas and Arttj Zoller.

Ms. Anderson has taught "Public Speaking" at Union County College in Cranford, New Jersey to students between the ages of 11-14 for the program called "Kids in College." She is a graduate of Bernard M. Baruch College, resides in Harlem, NYC and is a Programming Consultant at The Newark Museum.

STANLEY J. MYERS

Stan Myers was born and raised in Newark and is a proud 1945 graduate of South Side High School, Malcolm X (ex-buzz High School). Stan is a poet and author who writes extensively on jazz music. He has a collection of over 90 jazz albums and compact discs and a large library of books and articles about the music and its personalities. Through his affiliation with the New Jersey Jazz Society he has participated in music education programs in the public schools of Bergen County. As a frequent speaker and commentator, he has traveled throughout the state and educating diverse audiences on jazz music. He is constantly called upon to speak at area universities including Seton Hall, Rutgers and Montclair State, as well as at libraries and other public venues.

Since 1998, Stan has been the host of the weekly "Jam" sessions every Tuesday night at the Crossroads Club - Garwood, New Jersey. He is also the host for the Ramapo College Jazz series. Stan serves as an on-air host at William Paterson University radio station WPSU 88.1FM every Thursday from 9:00am - 11:00pm. He was previously an on-air host for WSOX 89.5FM from 1993-1995 and WBGO 88.3FM Jazz 88 from 1995-1998. Stan is a board member of the New Jersey Jazz Society and the New Jersey Jazz Institute. He is the Board President of the South Ward Cultural Center and the Jersey City Jazz Society. He is also a member of the Friends of WBGO, WKC-R radio station, the Newark Arts Collective and the Jazz Arts Society of Newark.

JAZZ MARATHON H O S T S

RON "SLIM" WASHINGTON

Ron Washington, called "Slim" by most of his friends and associates, has always been a music "jazz" lover. A former High School College and semi-professional basketball player, Ron has always confessed that had he not been a basketball player, it would have been a musician, having loved playing the drums and flute in high school.

Upon locating to the NY/NJ area, Ron immediately immersed himself in the local jazz scene. He has developed his love for the music and was able to meet many outstanding jazz musicians.

Later as a union activist while working for Verizon in Newark, NJ, the Verizon employees organization, "The Black Telephone Workers for Justice" began a jazz program for Verizon employees and neighborhood participants called "Sunday Night Jazz at the Black Workers Pub." Ron was the chief organizer for this effort, given his contacts with many jazz musicians. It was a wholly successful effort, bringing world class jazz musicians to the Essex County community at affordable working class prices. Diverse world class musicians such as Craig Harris, Steve and Iqua Colson, Kenny Davis, Akua Dixon, Ahmed Abdullah, Steve Lurie, Eric Alexander, Sam Washington's Harlem Arts Ensemble, Lennie Roberts, Vince Ector, Ray Vega, Chembo Cornielle, Willie Martinez, TK Blue, Amir and Amna Baraka, Billy Bang, Rene McLean, Rudy Walker, Winard Harper, Harold Mabern, Eddie Henderson, Oliver Lake and many others graced the stage.

Three years ago, the BWP series took off at Cecil's Jazz Club and Restaurant, in West Orange, NJ... New Jersey's premier jazz club. Ron "Slim" Washington Productions, inaugurated the first Freedom Jazz Festival during the 2007 February Black History Month which consisted of the Cecil Brooks III, CB3 band performing at Sweet Rhythm Jazz Club in NYC, Amir and Amna Barakas "Black Ark" performing at Creole Jazz and Supper Club in Harlem, and the Billy Bang Quintet at Sistas Place in Brooklyn.

This experience of promoting jazz concerts for the past five years has allowed Ron "Slim" Washington Productions to build a principled and respectful relationship with many of the jazz giants, club owners, and creators of the music, as well as with younger musicians, struggling to carve out their own destinies. There is no one better able to provide great musicians for all of your needs.

JAZZ MARATHON D A N C E R S

MAURICE CHILSTNUT NJITAP Company Dancer

Maurice Chilstnut began dancing at Jie Newark School of the Arts. He started dancing with NJITAP at the age of 9 and quickly advanced to the First Company as a Principal Dancer. In 2000, the Newark Star Ledger's arts writers chose him as one of the 20 new faces to watch in the 21st Century. In 2002, he joined the cast of Savon Grovers' "Bring in Da Noise, Bring in Da Funk." His many stage and television credits include appearances on Jay Leno, the Sally Jesse Raphael Show, featured rap dancer with the Chen Allen Trio at Carnegie Hall, Shades of Harlem, and top dog winner at the world famous Apollo Theater and he recently appeared with Savon Glover at The Joyce in New York.

Jazz
Marathon

JAZZ MARATHON DANCERS

SAVION GLOVER

Savion Glover, a native of Newark, is an actor, tap dancer and choreographer who graduated from Newark Arts High School.

While a student at Broadway Dance Center in Manhattan, an audition arranged by his teacher led to his debut at age 10 in "The Tap Dance Kid". He made his film debut in 1989's "Tap" co-starring with Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis, Jr. In 1990, he joined the cast of the children's television series, "Sesame Street" and remained on the show until 1995. He came to prominence in 1991, starring in the George C. Wolfe-produced "Bring in da Noise, Bring in da Funk". He also starred in Spike Lee's 2000 film "Bamboozed". He also appeared with Barbra Streisand in her "Timeless" Tour.

In 2004, Glover partnered with spoken word artist Reg E. Gaines and saxophonist Matana Roberts in a Joan Baez-inspired improvisation session "If I Were Here". In 2005, he further challenged the norm, collaborating with a string chamber orchestra and his band.

His most recent credit is as the motion capture dancer for Mumble, the penguin in the animated release "Happy Feet". He is now in a production called "Classical Savion" where he taps to classical pieces played by a chamber string group.

DEBORAH MITCHELL

Founder and Artistic Director
New Jersey Tap Ensemble

Deborah Mitchell received extensive training and mentoring from one of the great Tap Masters, Isaac "Bubba" Gaines of the Copaceticos. Her credits include The Cotton Club motion picture, Broadway and Paris productions of Black and Blue, PBS Great Performances, five international tours with the legendary Cab Calloway and a partnership with Philadelphia native Germaine Gordon as The Rhythm Queens.

Deborah is a recipient of tap dancing's most prestigious awards including The Flo-Bert Award from NY Committee to Celebrate National Tap Dance Day, The Living Treasure Award from Oklahoma City University, The Hooper Award from the American Tap Dance Foundation and 2006 Award from Savion Glover for contributing the essay to the advancement of the art form. She is Chairperson of the tap department at Sharon Milers Academy for the Performing Arts, teaches master classes and workshops nationally, is author and director of the D.J. Shop an Arts in Education musical for school age children, grades K-5 and Assistant Director/Choreographer for Marie Thomas Foster's Theater Workshop: Peppermint Players.

JAZZ MARATHON DANCERS

KAREN CALLAWAY WILLIAMS
NJTAP Company Soloist

Karen Callaway Williams is known for being both the first African American female tap dancer and dance captain in "Korvance The Show" and the only African American female tap dancer and dance captain in "Revolution". On Broadway, she has appeared on Broadway in the Duke Ellington musical "Play On!". Her numerous credits include the current documentary "Born Rich All My Life - The Story of the Saver Bros". She was the only female tap artist in The Mastery of Tap at Lincoln Center and featured in Lincoln Center's Reel to Reel Series. In addition to performing, Ms. Williams has established herself as a prominent tap instructor teaching statewide. Her teaching history includes Spelman College, the Avin Ailey American Dance Center, P.O. Ethnic Preparatory Country Day School, a Professional Performing Arts School, La MaMa, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center Dance Academy, the New York City Dance Alliance, national and international tap festivals, dance camps, master classes and enrichment programs. When not performing on Broadway or touring, look for Karen in the upcoming book "Shadowed Feet" by Itabari Nieri and the documentary "The Dancer's Feet". A graduate of Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, she is an alumna of the Avin Ailey American Dance Center (AAADC) in New York City.

JAZZ MARATHON JAZZ ENSEMBLES

ANTOINETTE MONTAGUE AND THE BILL EASLEY QUARTET

Antoinette Montague is a jazz singer who loves people and thrills audiences with her crystal clear tone, bell range and her emotional intensity.

Antoinette was in the Great Women in Music Festival at Birdland with the Duke Ellington Band (filmed by BET on Jazz), Mike Long's NY State of the Art Band for the 88th Birthday Celebration of Dizzy Gillespie, and selected by a special panel of Jacy Pitts, Sheila Jordan, and Martin Mueller to perform at the 40th Anniversary of St. Peter's Church and the 10th Anniversary of International Women in Jazz.

She has performed along with her quartet several times at the NYC Jazz Festival, including the 2007 Tribute to Joehe Jacobs, and at venues like Madam X, Carmela Street, Cade, Coup, Atlas Needle, Tribeca Bar and Grill, Trumpets, Caden, the NAACP's Int'l Jazz, Milt Jackson and the 2007 Exodus to Jazz Festival in Rochester, NY. In 2007 she was selected for a cover feature on Vol. IV of the World Who's Who in Jazz, Cabaret, Music and Entertainment.

Antoinette has spent years earning from and supporting some of the best in Jazz for many years, including Carrie Smith, Etta Jones, Norman Simmons, Della Griffin, Inez McClendon and Jim Carson. In 2006 she released her CD For the Love of Music with Mulgrew Miller, Bill Easley, Peter Washington and Kenny Washington.

JAZZ
Marathon

JAZZ MARATHON J A Z Z E N S E M B L E S

BILL EASLEY

Bill Easley has had a diversified career, as a professional musician, spanning more than forty five years. Bill represents the fourth generation of a family dedicated to music.

Over the years he has played in bands led by such notables as Ruth Brown, Johnny Smith, Jimmy McNeill, Bobby Short, Louis Bellson, Nicholas Payton, Charles McPherson, James Williams, Ronald Hanna, Earl May, John's Jaquett, Ron Carter, Frank Foster, Mercer Ellington, Patricia Francis and Grady Tate, among many others.

In addition to his extensive discography as a sideman, he also has four recordings as a leader. With inventions, "First Call", Easley Said and Blues Man's Bouquet his arsenal of woodwind instruments includes Tenor Alto and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet and Bass Clarinet, Flute, Alto Flute and piccolo.

Easley joined The George Benson Quartet in Jan. of 1968 and traveled with the great guitarist for the remainder of the decade. It was in the mid 1970s that Easley first toured with the Duke Ellington Orchestra under the direction of Mercer Ellington.

His New York City Broadway Credits include "Sophisticated Ladies", "The Wiz", "Back and Blue", "Jelly's Last Jam", "Swingin' On A Star", "Pay On, Fosse", and most recently, "The Wild Party".

Bill has played with The American Jazz Orchestra, John Lewis, The Smithsonian Jazz Orchestra, David Baker and The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra (Wynton Marsalis). He was a guest soloist with The Carnegie Hall Jazz Orchestra (Ron Fiddist).

St. Bonaventure University, located near Olean, NY, presented its first Artist Award to Bill Easley on April 19, 1977. The Bill Easley Quartet returned to St. Bonaventure University to play a packed house at the Regina A. Quick Arts Center for the Performing Arts on April 29, 2006.

CARRIE JACKSON & THE JAZZIN' ALL STAR TRIO

Carrie Jackson nurtured and honed her talents in her hometown of Newark, the Jazz Mecca of New Jersey. She has acquired a vast amount of experience in a wide variety of musical genres, beginning her musical career when she was six years old singing in the children's choir at Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Newark.

Jackson studied piano and voice with Howard "Duke" Anderson, teacher, composer and a singer. She is a protégé of Duke's artistry where she became an accomplished seasoned singer as well as band leader. As a young adult Ms. Jackson worked as a featured vocalist with Duke Anderson's Big Band. She also studied voice with Inez McLeod, Naama Herut and Winston Higgins at Newark School of the Arts.

Jackson is President/CEO of Clay Records and Clay Recording & Productions, Inc. established in 1996. She has produced several CD's including her critically acclaimed debut compact disc, entitled "The Nearness of You," which collaborated with co-producers, Cecil Brooks III.

Ms. Jackson has performed with a variety of groups such as the Duke Anderson Orchestra, Stanley Jordan & Trio, James Dean Orchestra, and The Ellington Legacy Band. The spontaneous chemistry with her long time band mates, Tomoko Ochiai, Lou Kannon, Steve Freeman and Gordon Lane, creates a unique and captivating ensemble.

JAZZ
Marathon

JAZZ MARATHON

J A Z Z E N S E M B L E S

DON WILLIAMS & LADY CICCI AND THE SWINGING JUST US BAND

Drummer Don Williams and singer Lady Cicci Williams, joined by fellow musicians have worked together for nearly three decades and currently share the stage delivering exciting jazz-fusable performances.

Don Williams of Newark is a career musician for over four decades. Williams has recorded and performed with legendary artists such as Arthur Prysock, Jimmy McMillan, Hank Crawford, Ronnie Earl, Red Holloway, David "Fat Head" Newman, Groove Holmes and others. Williams' touring experiences have taken him on national and international excursions where he has displayed his magnanimous talent on his instrument.

Lady Cicci, also of Newark, is smooth and spicy, combining top of bluesy jazz characteristics in her singing style. She attributes her style to her gospel background from her childhood. Her performances have commanded favorable recognition because of her vibrant, pleasant, and soul stirring vocals.

Don Williams and Lady Cicci produced their first CD, On the Up, in 1999. Don Williams' new CD Smokin' is now available. Lady Cicci's songs from the Heart have also been released. Both include special guests, musicians such as Joey DeFrancesco and Rachie McCallie (organ), Eric Alexander (sax), Bill Easley (sax), Butch Johnson (conga drums), Geary Moore (guitar) and Dave Blanton (bass).

ROSEANNA VITRO QUARTET

Roseanna Vitro combines vibrant energy and spirit, a deep understanding of the history and theoretical elements of jazz with her rhythmic, soulful southern roots to produce her own unique sound and style.

Roseanna grew up in Texarkana, Arkansas and moved to Houston, Texas where she was mentored by the great Arnett Cobb. After a successful run in Houston at the Greenroom, she moved to New York City and began touring with jazz greats: Lionel Hampton and became a regular at the Blue Note, Fat Tuesday's, Birdland, The Live Spot, and performed at Town Hall with Steve Allen.

Roseanna has been an active "Jazz Ambassador." In 2003, she performed three concerts for the US Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon with Hilton Ruiz and Andrew Jones. On a extended trip to Bombay, India in 1998, Roseanna began her study in Indian classical vocal technique. "From Bebo to Bombay" is the name of her eclectic ensemble that debuted at Birdland in New York. Roseanna was also featured with The Maribor Philharmonic in Slovenia for their 2001 Christmas Concert that was televised throughout Eastern Europe.

Jazz pianist Marian McPartland has recently featured Roseanna twice on NPR's "Piano Jazz" as well as recording "One Year" with her for a New Christmas CD. Performance highlights around the country include The Women in Jazz Festival at the Kennedy Center, the Newark Jazz Festival, the Dallas Museum of Art Festival with George Coleman, the Caravan of Dreams with Tower of Power, the Telluride Jazz Festival, recorded live for NPR, the Houston Jazz Fest, BET on Jazz with Ramsey Lewis, Blues Alley in Washington, DC, and stints in Los Angeles at the Jazz Bakery and the Carolina Bar.

Her many CDs have featured Ervin Jones, David "Fat Head" Newman, George Coleman, Al Foster, Kenny Barron, Kenny Werner, Gary Bartz and Fred Hersch. Roseanna was inducted into the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame in 1998 along with Bob Dorough and John Grubbsfield. This was a great homecoming and return to her roots.

JAZZ MARATHON J A Z Z E N S E M B L E S

RUFUS REID QUINTET

Rufus Reid's major professional career began in Chicago. His extensive jazz background and discography reads like the Who's Who in Jazz. He has traveled, performed, and recorded with many of the great Jazz Masters. He was privileged to share many musical moments with some that have passed on: Gene Ammons, Kenny Dorham, Edick Harris, Sunny Smith, Don Byas, Philly Joe Jones, Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, Dexter Gordon, Bill Evans, Stan Getz, Dizzy Gillespie, and Art Farmer.

The Rufus Reid Quintet is a fresh voice that illustrates the breadth of his experiences. His music encompasses eloquent rendition of selected, but often overlooked American songbook and jazz standards, plus exciting original compositions. The audience will be taken on a delightful musical outing that will surprise and satisfy. This ensemble has three generations of jazz players and experiences that range from the infectious hard swinging bebop to lush serious ballads.

Rufus Reid received a 2006 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a table him to continue composing, and he received the ASCAP IAHF Commission for Established Jazz Composers, which was premiered at the 2007 ASCAP Conference in New York City. The 2006 SACAP Commission Prize was awarded to Rufus, which allowed him to fulfill a dream to compose a work dedicated to the artist, Elizabeth Caci. His four movement work, inspired by four of the sculptures for Jazz Big Band premiered at The University of Connecticut at Storrs and at Stamford in 2007.

Reid's new CD/DVD recording by noted Independent Label, Motema Music was recorded October 13, 2006 at The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC's venerable national home for the performing arts, and released May 29, 2007.

SPIRIT OF LIFE ENSEMBLE

The Spirit of Life Ensemble, SOLE, is a musical carnival, mixing rhythms and songs from the American, Afro-Cuban and Brazilian diaspora and beyond. With stylized solos and masterful delivery SOLE sets free musical enthusiasm and jubilation.

SOLE's conceptual sophistication is that of a jazz ambassador. The power of SOLE's improvisations is at once rooted in their energetic nature and pulsating sound. The result is a beautiful example of the Ensemble's compelling qualities: talent and passion.

SOLE's memorable performances are thorough yet never over-the-top, for they embody multi-generational styles as well as multiculturalism. As their name implies, the Ensemble lays down exuberant tapestries of spirited and dense, layered sound.

It is always a special moment when a group, a venue and, most importantly, the audience combines in celebration. On those precious occasions everything merges, there is no way to separate any part from the whole. The Spirit of Life Ensemble provides these kinds of rare moments all the time.

JAZZ MARATHON

J A Z Z E N S E M B L E S

STEVE COLSON & IQUA COLSON

Adapted: Steve Colson, pianist and composer, has performed internationally as a leader of jazz ensembles ranging from trios to orchestras. Born in Newark and raised in East Orange, he received his degree from Northwestern University School of Music in November 13, 1989 was proclaimed Steve Colson Day in Newark in honor of the premiere of his multimedia commissioned work, Greens, Race and a Rope, at Newark Symphony Hall.

He worked with Amir Baraka and Max Roach on their opera, "Bumpy Johnson," and was commissioned to collaborate with Amir Baraka and Richard Wesley by The New Jersey Chamber Music Society. The second book of their series, "Isis in a Cultural Remuniscence" was the first world premiere to be presented in the New Jersey Performing Arts Center during the opening season. Steve also conducted and arranged the music of Willie the Lion Smith for the national "Lost Jazz Stories" project which was also presented at NJPAC.

Steve has received several commissions and awards for composition. His career has taken him throughout the world performing with many talented artists. Musicians including Michael Richard Abrams, Ed Baker, John Blake, Harriet Bennett, Andrew Cyrille, Bakka Carron, Anthony Davis, Richard Davis, Rachel Farrell, Maachi Favors, Benny Golson, Craig Harris, Fred Hopkins, Joseph Jarman, Leroy Jenkins, Oliver Lake, Branford Marsalis, Steve McCall, Andy McCloy, Maxford, Ken McIntyre, TS Monk, Bruce Morris, David Murray, Hannibal Peterson, Rufus Reid, Max Roach, Marlena Shaw, Dakota Staton, Henry Threadgill, Steve Turre, Chris White, Reggie Workman, and many other talented artists.

Steve has been involved in education throughout his professional career. He currently is a member of the faculty at Bloomsburg College where he teaches World Music, History of African American Music, Intro to Music Technology, and piano.

His work as a pianist and composer is found on American, European and Japanese record labels including Columbia/Sony, Evjavec and Black Saint. He appears with ASCAP award winning composer Bakka Carron on his CD, Marionettes on a High Wire, which hit number one on jazz radio play lists throughout the country and Europe. He is featured on Music for My Love Ones a CD by drummer Kevin Cook released September 20th with Duane Lubatkin, Erik Blue and Curtis Landy. He is married to Iqua Colson, a singer, arts administrator, and award winning lyricist. Steve's latest CD as a leader was Hope for Love a collaborative effort with Iqua, released in May 2004.

Vocalist Iqua Colson was named a Vocal Talent Deserving Wider Recognition by Downbeat Magazine and was also recognized by Billboard Magazine for distinguished achievement as a lyricist. She has 3 recordings, has led bands at several women's jazz festivals and collaborated with her husband pianist/composer Steve Colson, bringing their groups to festivals and concerts in the U.S., Europe, Egypt and Israel.

Born and raised in Chicago, Iqua entered Northwestern University. She later transferred to Chicago Musical College at Roosevelt University where she completed her undergraduate Music Degree.

She has been an educator in the East Orange School District for many years focusing on curriculum development and special projects in the arts. She has a Masters of Public Administration Arts Administration from Seton Hall University.

Iqua has initiated and/or produced jazz concerts, festivals and arts education projects in Chicago, New York City and New Jersey.

JAZZ MARATHON

J A Z Z E N S E M B L E S

NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPER BAND

In 1993 the Newark Public Schools (NPS) Super Band began as a trio with David Braham on piano, Otis Brown, Sr. on drums and Bill May on bass. All were part of the Newark Public Schools instructional or administrative staff. Since that time the NPS Super Band has grown to include a roster of 25 musicians, all teachers or administrators in the Newark Public Schools.

Annually the NPS Super Band performs for the Superintendent's Convocation and for the New Teachers Reception. Other performances include a showcase at the NJMLA Conference in East Brunswick, NJ and Dark Shadows in Newark, NJ. The NPS Super Band was the opening act for the Dizzy Gillespie All Star Alumni Band at Newark Symphony Hall.

All of the performers in the NPS Super Band continue to perform professionally with their own bands and as side musicians with other ensembles performing varying styles of music.

JAZZ MARATHON

MUSICIANS

TK BLUE

TK also known as Faith Kibwe, was born in New York City of a Trinidadian mother and Jamaican father. TK began playing music at age eight on trumpet. In high school TK played the flute.

He took lessons from Bill Mitchell, the legendary tenor saxophonist with Count Basie and Dizzy Gillespie. He eventually pursued music as a career after receiving a full academic scholarship to New York University where he began playing soprano and alto saxophone. He earned a bachelor's degree in both music and psychology from NYU. TK Blue went on to earn a master's degree in music education from Teachers College at Columbia University.

Since 1990 TK has worked constantly in a wide range of musical settings. He was musical director, arranger and composer with the Spirit of Life Ensemble. He also formed a band with Charles Weidman called 141. They released their debut CD Live At Birdland in 1993.

In 1996 TK's first stateside disc introducing Faith Kibwe was released on the Evidence label. Compared with his masterful facility on saxophone and flute, compositional insight and recording experiences, TK is among the new breed of artist educators fully prepared to carry the message of jazz to audiences of all ages.

As an instructor at the Litchfield Jazz Summer Camp for adults TK performed at the Litchfield Jazz Festival with the Don Braden Big Band which included such notable artists as James Moody, Steve Hammron, and Paquito D'Rivera.

TK Blue is currently an adjunct professor of jazz at Montclair State University and director of jazz studies at Long Island University-CW Post Campus.

TK Blue was commissioned by the NYSCA and Transart Inc. to compose a new suite entitled Follow The North Star dedicated to Solomon Northrup and his book 12 Years A Slave. It was premiered on April 20, 2007 in Rosedale NY. It was also performed as part of the Jazz To The Valley Festival on Aug. 9, 2007. He is currently preparing to record a new CD this fall.

JAZZ MARATHON MUSICIANS

CECIL BROOKS, III

A second generation drummer and bandleader, Cecil Brooks, III has produced over 40 recordings on the Muse, High Note, and Savant labels for artists ranging from John Hicks to Artur Blythe to Don Braden.

A contemporary drummer and aggressive post-bop musician, Cecil Brooks, III has worked in the New York area with such musicians as Greg Osby, Geri Allen and Lonnie Plaxico. He recorded his debut album as a leader for Muse in 1989, subsequently releasing efforts including 1990's *Longing* with Shonni, 1993's *New York in January* and 2000's *Dear Master Brooks* in addition to session work in both a hard bop and bebop setting. The intimate sextet of *Live at Sweet Basils* was issued in early 2001.

Cecil Brooks, III is the owner and musical director for Cecil's Jazz Club located in West Orange, New Jersey.

CHRISTOPHER BROWN

Christopher Brown, born in Beaverton, Oregon and raised in Portland, began his formal musical training studying Piano at age five, inspired by his father, former Motown drummer and Portland jazz luminary Mel Brown. Chris added both saxophone and drums to his musical palette by age eleven. After winning numerous local awards, he gained national recognition in 1995 when his jazz trio was awarded Down Beat Magazine's "Best High School First Annual Trio Group." During that time he was invited to perform with Wynton Marsalis.

After graduating from Wilson High School, Brown enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served for four years.

Upon his release from active duty in 1999, Christopher moved to New Brunswick where he completed both an undergraduate and graduate degrees in Jazz Studies Performance at Rutgers University. In the years since, he has become an in-demand rhythm section player with a wide range of artists, including Benny Golson, Ralph Bowen, Charles Fambrough, Onaje Allen Gumbs, John Stubblefield, Vincent Herring, Stanley Cowell, Conrad Herwig, Sean Jones, Iana Lakey, Essiet Essiet, Don Bader, Mark Gross, Antonio Hart, Kenny Davis, Roy Hargrove, and Ronnie Matthews. Brown has also performed on saxophone with the Ralph Peterson Jr. Quartet.

Brown currently plays the saxophone in the New Jersey Army National Guard. He is a Professor of Jazz Theory at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Brown's film credits include an appearance as a sax player in the 1993 film *Mr. Holland's Opus*. He can now be seen in the film *American Gangster* starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe.

MELVIN DAVIS

Melvin Davis, a Hammond B3 Organist/Extracurricularist, has understood the power of his hands to transport the sound of instruments from his imagination to a concert hall or nightclub for all of his life, dating back to childhood.

The Hammond's big band grooves, thanks to masters and mentors such as George Benson, Larry Young, Jr., Brother Jack McDuff, Jimmy McGriff and Dr. Lonnie Smith, worked their way into Davis' DNA. But 24 years ago, Davis lost the ability to play with his hands. Caught in the motorized belt of a fast moving container making machine where he worked to supplement his meagre income, a finger was ripped from his left hand, which was also split diagonally.

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JAZZ MARATHON
MUSICIANS

Eight painful years and seven grueling operations is what it took for Davis to rehabilitate his hand and fingers before he could play again. Even his brain underwent reconstruction. It had to adjust to Davis now playing bass with his left hand chords and melodies with his right, the opposite way he learned and opposite the way most musicians play.

Davis has played and recorded with the legendary jazz greats George Benson. During the 1998 and 1999 Newark Jazz Festival organ jams Davis headlined with Benson, Charles Ear and Jack McDuff, Jimmy McOniff, Joey DeFrancesco, Rhoda Scott and Sezeno Clark. He currently travels the globe - England, Italy, Japan, Spain, the Netherlands and more with jazz guitarist Ronny Jordan.

Davis has recorded four CDs - MDRCL Mel Levanham, executive producers Tom & Jana Papa, and his third CD released May 3, 2005 titled "Mr. Davis Revealed," produced by Ronny Jordan. N2 Groove/Needle Music/Warlock label. Davis is currently signed with TomTom Records and Logic First is collaborative completed Mel's 4th CD titled "It's About Time."

NICKI DENNER

Nicki Denner has been a part of the New York Latin and jazz music scene since 1999 and is known throughout the United States and Europe. Nicki is also a devoted teacher, maintaining a private teaching studio and serving on the piano faculty of the Stanford University Summer Jazz Workshop and the Montclair State University Jazz Prep Summer Program. Since 2001, she has led her own trio which features Jimmy Vincent on bass and Willie Martinez on drums. In 2006, the trio released their debut recording, *Mondeco Cafe*, which was named one of the "Top Ten Picks of 2006" in *Latin Beat* Magazine. Ms. Denner has released two other Latin jazz CDs as a leader, *I Don't Just Stand There* and *El Mundo de Coqui*, featuring Julian Lage, a former singer with Latin music legend Arsenio Rodriguez, who spent six months in *Latin Beat* magazine's Top 20 Hot Parade. You can hear her music at www.nickidenner.com.

JAMES GIBBS, III

James Gibbs III was born in Newark and grew up in Irvington. He began his musical journey at age nine, playing the alto saxophone and the clarinet. At age 13, James became the youngest person to become a full-time band member of the Irvington High School marching band.

Gibbs love for jazz music and the trumpet started as a child while watching Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis. Throughout high school, Gibbs played trumpet with the gospel choir, in the pit band, the classical ensemble, jazz band, and concert band. He also wrote and arranged much of the repertoire. James studied under Newark legendary organist Radian Schwartz at the Jazz Institute of New Brunswick.

His first major gig came on December 12, 1994 at the Five Spot in New York City for the WBGO membership party. Gibbs shared the stage with jazz stars Wesel "Ward" Daddy Anderson (sax), Bruce Williams (sax) and Riley Mullins (trumpet) and the late legendary Dr. Betty Carter (vocalist) with the top instrumentalist of the jazz institute.

James attended DePauw State University under the musical leadership of the legendary Donald Byrd. Throughout his young career, James has performed or performed with D. Bay Taylor, T.S. Monk, Herbie Hancock, Roberta Flack, Wynton Marsalis, Delfino Marsalis, Roy Avers, Jimmy Heath, Russell Malone, Christian McBride, Roy Hargrove, Gladys Tate, Terence Blanchard, Jon Faddis, George Benson, David Pike, even of his race, Cecil Brooks III, John Lee, and many of the great, legendary instrumentalists, vocalists, and personalities of our time.

He recently finished his debut CD entitled *Relaxin'*.

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JAZZ MARATHON
MUSICIANS

BRADFORD HAYES

Bradford Hayes, a native of Petersburg, Virginia, has been a force on the jazz scene in the northeastern U.S. for several years now. He has performed at a number of clubs, colleges and concert halls that include Birdland (NYC), Javali on the Green (NYC) and the Beacon Theater (NYC). Bradford has performed in different musical settings with Jimmy Heath, Al Grey, Cecil Payne, Rufus Reid, Ray Bryant, Winard Harper, Ben Riley, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Cecil Brooks III, Jerry Butler, and The Delis. Hayes has also appeared for Chico Freeman, Betty Carter, Joe Henderson, Max Roach, Mariena Shaw, Pieces Of A Dream, and Helen Reddy among others. In addition to leading his own band, Bradford spent 5 years with Subartide (James Drums O'Passio) Band, serving as Musical Director for the last 3 years until Mr. O'Passio's passing. In fact, one of the real personal highlights of Bradford's career is when he performed with Mr. O'Passio at Yankee Stadium during the son's Maude's first homecoming trip to the United States after his release from a South African prison. Clearly, Bradford has also been performing with the Spirit of Life Ensemble.

Recently, Bradford along with four other musicians became the subjects of a photograph taken by legendary jazz photographer William Gottlieb. This was the first photo of jazz musicians taken by Mr. Gottlieb since 1948. In addition to the photo session, Bradford and the other musicians selected were interviewed as part of a PBS documentary that will be released at a later date about the work of Mr. Gottlieb.

Hayes, while accomplishing so much in the music performance world, has also been a successful music educator in the Newark, New Jersey Public Schools for 24 years. This connection to education and his knowledge of jazz makes him an excellent clinician.

Hayes holds a Bachelor of Sciences Degree in Music Education from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. He has also studied privately with George Coleman and Charles Davis.

LEO JOHNSON

Perhaps not the most fitting than *It's About Time* for a seasoned jazz saxophonist, Leo Johnson's debut album. After all, it is a phrase that he heard often from people in response to news of his pending release. With years of experience performing alongside such jazz notables as Jimmy McGriff, Chico Mendoza, Jimmy Witherspoon, Johnny Hammond, David "Fathead" Newman, Jack McDuff, and Rhoda Scott, Johnson continues to hone his craft as a jazz musician, composer, and inspiring listeners with his unique lyricism and ingenious creativity.

However, *It's About Time* is an essence about time. Leo's album features all original tunes of reminiscence composed in honor of people, places, and messages most dear to him. "The Inward Affair" was written during his ten-year residency in Manhattan. "I was walking around, reminiscing about what was going on in my life at that time, and this tune came from my head." Johnson recalls of the seductive tune. Similarly, "Le Saint Germain" is named after a Parisian club where he performed and recorded with the Rhoda Scott Trio in 1994. The serene tune "Lela Song" memorializes his mother, a devout woman of the church, while "Jill's Theme" is a tribute to a twelve-bar blues written for his father, the late John Johnson. "Candy Boy" honors Johnson's longtime colleague, drummer Jesse Hahmeem.

Listeners will especially enjoy the romantic ballad "For the Last Time" with lyrics of love and devotion penned by Johnson himself. Baritone Bob Porter's vocal style brings to mind past winners Billy Eckstine and DJ Jirina Harlan. The true showstopper is Johnson's fiery improvisation in the instrumental version of the same song that concludes the album.

JAZZ
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MUSICIANS

CORNELI C. MCGHEE

Corneli C. McGhee is a native of Newark who has been on the metropolitan jazz scene for the past twenty years. He has performed in several major venues in the metropolitan area and played with many of its great musicians appearing on local cable with the Bradford Hayes Group and on Time Warner Cable with the 'Spirit of Life Ensemble'.

As a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree, McGhee decided to take up the trombone. Over the years McGhee has studied with Clarence Banks of the Basie band, trombone legend Grachan Moner III and Bob Ferrell, former member of the Ellington band. The first trombonist that inspired him was Fred Wesley who played for the late James Brown. Other role models included John Coltrane and Miles Davis.

McGhee also works as an instructor for local jazz workshops and offers private lessons.

DION PARSON

Dion Parson is one of New York's finest young drummers. Born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Parson's musical togetherness ranges from classical, reggae, calypso, jazz, African, and pop music.

Parson's first musical instrument was the trombone. At age 10, he began playing drums and was awarded a grant from the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts to study at Lincoln Music Academy in Michigan. Upon returning home, he was selected to be the Virgin Islands representative in the McDonald's All American High School Band. Parson later attended Rutgers University where he studied percussion with Keith Copeland and William Moersch, receiving his Bachelor of Music in Music Education in 1990.

Parson began his teaching career at Rutgers University in 1992 as an adjunct professor. The experience opened other doors of opportunity as an educator, including classes and workshops at Cheyney University in Pennsylvania, VI Council on the Arts Jazz Exchange Workshops, Haddam School of the Arts, Manna House Workshops, New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) Jazz for Teens program, and private instruction at various sites.

Parson moved to New York where he quickly became part of the jazz scene playing with such greats as the late Muttia Mason, Monty Alexander, Jon Fadd, Steve Grossman, Gary Bartz, Terence Blanchard, Allen Donald Harrison, Don Byron, David Sanabaz, Ray Anderson, Stephen Scott, Mace Gray, Lee Konitz, Ernest Ranglin, Ron Blake, Terrell Stafford, Cyrus Chestnut, Babatundé Olatunji, Baaba Maal, Dianne Reeves, Bill Salter, Bill Saxton and Steve Lurie. His association with these musicians has taken him well beyond US borders on tours to such places as Japan, Europe, Canada, the West Indies, Africa, and the Middle East.

His recording experience and close association with fellow St. Thomas native Ron Blake led to the birth of Jahuman Records which housed his first recordings as a leader. 21st Century led with Blake and his first solo effort, "People Music," released in 2001.

ALFRED PATTERSON
Trombone

JAZZ MARATHON
MUSICIANS

SHERRY WINSTON

Sherry Winston has performed in many of the major concert halls throughout the U.S. including Carnegie Hall, Concert Hall at Lincoln Center and at the Kennedy Center. She is a musician, composer and has numerous awards for her own songs and the management of her band.

Sherry had the honor of performing for two sitting presidents. For President and Mrs. Clinton during their last holiday party at the White House and for former President George H. Bush at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in NYC. Sherry has been a featured guest on the Today Show, "Emin. Live," and has co-hosted and performed on eight shows for BET TV.

On the business side, Sherry worked as Director of Jazz Promotion at Columbia, Arista Group and Elektra Records. She has promoted such well-known artists as Kenny G, Grover Washington, Jr., Wynton and Branford Marsalis, Harry Connick, Jr., Nancy Wilson and Ramsey Lewis to name only a few.

As a performer Sherry has opened for Shabud, Gerald Albright, Ramsey Lewis, Chaka Kahn, Pieces of a Dream, Peabo Bryson, Regina Belle, Grover Washington, Jr., Diana Reeves, Nelson Rangel, Ronnie Laws and many others.

Sherry released her fifth CD entitled For Lovers Only, because of requests from her many fans for a romantic CD that would be perfect for entertaining or relaxing after a stressful day at work.

Sherry's third CD Love is... won the WBLS "Quiet Storm" award and reached top 10 at Radio and Records, an industry tip sheet.

Sherry's fourth CD, Life is Love & Love is You, features the late Grover Washington, Jr., Najee, No Matter How... and award winning vocalist, the late Jon Lucien.

JASON "MALLETTMAN" TAYLOR

Jason "Malletman" Taylor grew up in Brooklyn, New York listening to Lionel Hampton's music. Taylor played the drums and xylophone before he began playing the vibraphone. He became dedicated to mastering the "vibe" just like the late Hampton, who was so impressed during his first meeting with Taylor in 1981 that he took the young "Malletman" as his protégé and became his mentor. In addition to learning with the legendary Hampton and his 18-piece band, Taylor also received the kind of personal training and experience that can only be described as "practical." Taylor toured the U.S. and Europe with Hampton, which ended with the two of them playing at President Ronald Reagan's Inaugural Gala in Disneyland in 1981. It was during that time Malletman formed Mallet Records, a record company dedicated to its mission of "Keeping Real Music Alive."

Malletman began promoting his first recording, Once Upon a Mallet, in 1985. The following year, Malletman released his sophomore recording, Good Grief My Love, by a few weeks. Taylor returned to his true love—performing, developing his unique live show into one that awe audiences and critics alike. As the 1980s ended, Taylor released his successful Love Attack which featured the singles, "Love Attack" and "Pick Me Up." "Love Attack" (The Remix) was number 24 on the Let's Dance! Record 200, Urban Chart in December 2000.

Taylor is a five-time Grammy ballot-nominee. He is known for his unique presentation of jazz, R&B and Swing, creating a signature sound that is all his own, which he calls "Vibrafunk." He has been in the company of such legends as Frank Sinatra, Jerry Colonna, Dizzy Gillespie, George Cinton, James Brown, Miles Davis, Branford Marsalis, Steve Washington, B.B. King, Albert King, Slide Hampton and B.J. Cosby. Taylor has opened up for Earth Wind and Fire (2003), Lalo Schifano (2002), Pancho Sanchez (2000), The Manhattan Transfer (1999), Najee (1996), Aquino (1996), Pieces of a Dream (1996), Diana Reeves (1995), Maya Angelou (1992) and Cheryl Lynn (1990).

JAZZ
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JAZZ MARATHON
MUSICIANS

Taylor teamed up with the Berger Organization and former Mayor Sharpe James to open "Mallet's Place" a jazz club that was launched as a tremendous success in December 2001, operating until 2003.

Taylor became a Yamaha artist and clinician in 1991. He presents music clinics throughout the United States to schools, colleges and churches where he shares his experience and teaches about percussion instruments. He is currently working on his television show, "Mallet's Place TV" which began airing in May 2006 on Time Warner Cable.

JAZZ MARATHON
SINGERS

JAN CARDEN

Jan Carden has sung with the Mel Arnold Orchestra, Barry Herman Orchestra, The Phillips Family Band and the Gerry Tolya Orchestra. He has his own band at the Priority in Newark, NJ, and on 25 in South Orange, and venues throughout New Jersey, Missouri, Canada, Jamaica and Florida. He has performed at Theatre under the Stars, Oscar Schindler Performing Arts Center, Manhattan Community College and the Smiths in New York City. Theatrical productions in which he has appeared include *Ada*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Ragtime*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

TULISA DONNA CUMBERBATCH

Tulisa Donna Cumberbatch is a native of Brooklyn, New York. Her father, the great baritone saxophone player Harold Cumberbatch, named her Donna Lynn after Miles Davis' composition, "Donna Lee", made popular by Charlie Parker.

Her participation in choirs both in church and school, and in particular the A.I. Crosby High School Chorus under the direction of John Morley proved to be a great training ground. She studied music formally at Herbert H. Lehman College and informally she studied, listened and learned from such great artists as Carmen McRae, Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald and Nancy Wilson, among others.

Cumberbatch has performed extensively in New York, the Caribbean, Europe, Canada, West Africa, and the continental United States. Her last European tour included performances with trumpeter Hannibal Louimbe, his quartet and a symphony orchestra performing his two symphonies, "Children of the Fire" and "Flames of South Africa". Other works by Hannibal in which Ms. Cumberbatch was the featured vocalist were "Tanny Lou Hamer" performed with the Keros Quartet and "Love Poems to God" with dancer/choreographer Danielle McIntyre.

In the past year, Ms. Cumberbatch and her Magister Trio, have teamed up with the spiritually uplifting, thought provoking, sensitive poet, Ousef Ali Saeed to present a program entitled, "A Jazz Love Thing, A Healing for the Millennium". This program fuses jazz and the spoken word and centers around the themes of forgiveness, patience, righteousness, compassion, and sensuality. It was presented February 14, 2004 at the Skylight Gallery in Brooklyn, New York.

Ms. Cumberbatch also does educational jazz workshops for elementary and junior high schools. Ms. Cumberbatch has three recordings on K. K. Records, *Harmony*, *Lullabies* in *The Key Of Life-For The Child In All Of Us*, and *Daughters of the Nile*. She can also be heard on numerous other recordings. Her smooth, salty, soulful sound has captivated thousands. She has been compared to Sarah Vaughan, Carmen McRae and Gloria Lynne, but clearly exhibits her own unique enchanting style.

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S I N G E R S

YVETTE GLOVER

Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, Yvette Glover comes from a family of musicians and started singing in church choirs as a child. She especially credits her mother and father, who were brilliant musicians in their own right, for passing along the "gene."

Yvette has pursued her lifelong passion to become an entertainer. Having performed for countless audiences with some of the industry's most talented musicians from throughout the United States, Europe and South America, one of the most significant highlights of Yvette's career was performing for King Hassan in Morocco.

As an adult, Yvette placed her career on hold to focus upon rearing her family. As is her custom to nurture, to inspire, and uplift others, she began to cultivate the talents that were evident within her own children. Her son, Savion Glover, won a 1996 Tony Award for choreographing "Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk" and is known for his Broadway roles in "Tap Dance Kid," "Tap" and "Jelly's Last Jam." Ms. Glover later resumed her career whereas she continues to pursue her love for both gospel and jazz.

Her other two sons are also in the business. Carlton is a stage manager and Abron is a tap dancer and dance teacher.

As a lifelong New Jersey resident, Ms. Glover firmly believes in community involvement and mentorship of young people. It is not unusual to find Yvette donating her time and talent at a fundraising event for a just cause, or conducting a workshop for high school students. She has been a life-long advocate of arts education.

CYNTHIA HOLIDAY

Cynthia Holiday, is a vocalist, songwriter and product spokesperson originally from Newark, New Jersey who has performed and/or recorded with Cedar Walter, John Hicks, and Roy Ayers, among others. Her father is the late jazz trumpeter Calvin Hughes, well known for his mastery of the trumpet and who played with Frank Foster, Clark Terry, Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis and many other noted personalities. Her mother is a classically trained vocalist.

The Newark School for The Arts was the starting point for Holiday's vocal training until she met the late jazz composer, Duke Anderson. Anderson was so impressed that he introduced her to Bob Harris who hired her for lead vocals with the Bob Harris Orchestra in 1990.

Holiday's most recent accomplishments include opening for flutist Sherry Winston at the Riverbank Jazz Festival in New York City, guest artist with The Temptations at the National NAACP's benefit concert at City Center in New York City, shared billing with Roy Ayers at Newark Symphony Hall's 75th Anniversary Jazz Concert, and shared billing with Cassandra Wilson, Jon Lucien, Alex Bugnon at Jersey Jazz By The Lake Concert.

JAZZ MARATHON
S P O K E N W O R D

JUBA DOWDELL

Juba Dowdell is a 35-year-old writer and teacher from Newark. Dowdell teaches Language Arts to eighth-graders at Hawthorne Avenue Elementary School in Newark. Along with fellow writer, Ras Baraka, he is the producer and co-host of the widely popular series, "Verse 4 Verse Poetry Café".



S T A F F

Philip Thomas
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Box Office Manager/House Manager

Jalil McCrea
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Karyn Evans Farkas
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Tara McCrea
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House Manager

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Clem Cox

Tim Danzy
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Gene Etchison

Rodger Harris
Alonzo Herron
Bernadette Holmes

Jeff Hodge
Majid Sami
Habeebah Westry

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL *Memories*

My greatest memory was going to see James Brown. Now mind you this was in the late 60s/early 70s. I was a teenager and my mother used to take my sister and myself. He sure knew how to put on a show. We had so much fun hanging out with Mom at Symphony Hall.

Lauren Smith, East Orange, NJ

Having grown up in Newark, I have many great memories of Newark Symphony Hall. My sister and our friends used to go to the SLY AND THE FAMILY STONE concert every year. Then there was the fabulous EBONY FASHION SHOW. We wouldn't dare miss that... although we had nowhere to wear what was being modeled. We also attended the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and Newark Boys Choir. I look forward to more great events in that marvelous theater.

Linda Reaver, East Orange, NJ

I really enjoy coming to the different shows there. It's good to be able to go to a show in your own neighborhood instead of going to New York for a Broadway play. I enjoyed "His Women: His Wife," "Why Did I Get Married," and "Men, Money and Goldiggers." I'm looking forward to seeing many more plays.

Danielle McMillian-Best, Newark, NJ

I have been to every concert, every comedy show, all the gospel plays they ever had. If they ever leave Newark, a great part of Newark history will be lost. Newark Symphony Hall is Newark. Without it, Newark will never be the same.

Kesheda Burks, Irvington

I remember in the late 80s before my husband and I married, we used to come to "The Hall" to see the Whispers, Angela Bofill, and Phyllis Hyman. My best memory is when I myself performed on stage when I attended Marie Wilkey Dance School.

Yvette Chindan, East Orange, NJ

Now, Newark has a reputation for being a tough place, even by those who live in Brooklyn and uptown Manhattan, so it was with some anxiety that I jumped on the PATH train and then boarded Newark's city buses. What I saw and experienced when I finally arrived surpasses all expectations. Newark Symphony Hall is physically a very attractive setting, a very comfortable place to see a show. But what impressed me most was the friendliness of the people.

Brent Norwathy, Providence, RI

JAZZ Marathon

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL

TERRACE BALLROOM

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